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NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE AMERICAN
ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

THE NINETEENTH CONGRESS of the American Ornithologists' Union convened in New York City Monday evening, November 11, 1901. The meetings were held at the American Museum of Natural History, the public sessions commencing Tuesday, November 12, and lasting three days.

BUSINESS SESSION.—The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. C. Hart Merriam. Sixteen Active Members were present. The Secretary's report gave the membership of the Union at the opening of the present Congress as 738, constituted as follows: Active, 44; Honorary, 16; Corresponding, 62; Associate, 616.

During the year the Union lost seventy-seven members—eleven by death, twenty-four by resignation, and forty-two were dropped for non-payment of dues. The deceased members include one Honorary, four Corresponding and six Associate members, as follows: Dr. Gustav Hartlaub,¹ an Honorary Member, who died November 20, 1900, in the 87th year of his age; Dr. C. A. Altum, a Corresponding Member, who died January 1, 1900; Dr. John Anderson,² a Corresponding Member, who died August 15, 1900, aged 66 years; the Abbé Armand David,³ a Corresponding Member, who died November 19, 1900, aged 74 years; Baron Edmond de Sélys Longschamps,³ a Corresponding Member, who died December 11, 1900, at the age of 87; George A. Boardman,⁴ an Associate Member, who died at Calais, Maine, January 11, 1901, aged 83; Capt. John Clifford Brown,⁵ an Associate Member, who died at Los Angeles, Cal., January 16, 1901, aged 29; Newton Dexter,⁷ who died at Seaconnet Point, R. I., July 27, 1901; James MacKinlay,⁶ an Associate Member, who died in Pictou, Nova Scotia, November 30, 1899, aged 81; Francis J. Birtwell,⁷ an Associate Member, who died at Willis, N. M., June 28, 1901, aged 21 years; and Rev. George S. Mead, an Associate Member, who died in Guatemala, June 19, 1900.

The report of the Treasurer showed the finances of the Union to be in good condition.

All of the officers were reelected, as follows: Dr. C. Hart Merriam, President; Charles B. Cory and Charles F. Batchelder, Vice-Presidents; John H. Sage, Secretary; William Dutcher, Treasurer; Frank M. Chapman, Ruthven Deane, E. W. Nelson, Witmer Stone, Drs. A. K. Fisher, Jonathan Dwight, Jr., and Thos. S. Roberts, members of the Council.

Certain amendments to the By-Laws, proposed at the last Congress of the Union, were adopted, whereby the former class of

¹ For an obituary notice, see *Auk*, XVIII, p. 219.

² For an obituary notice, see *Ibid.*, XIX, p. 118.

³ For an obituary notice, see *Ibid.*, XVIII, pp. 292.

⁴ For an obituary notice, see *Ibid.*, pp. 219.

⁵ For an obituary notice, see *Ibid.*, pp. 220.

⁶ For an obituary notice, see *Ibid.*, p. 221.

⁷ For an obituary notice, see *Ibid.*, pp. 413.

Active Members became Fellows, and Associate Members became Associates. A class of membership was established, intermediate between Fellows and Associates, to be known as Members, limited in number to seventy-five. The nomination of Members must be made by the Council to the Union, and the affirmative votes of three fourths of the Fellows present will be necessary to a choice. The membership of the Union now consists of the following classes: Fellows, Honorary Fellows, Corresponding Fellows, Members, Associates, and Patrons.

Outram Bangs, of Boston; Joseph Grinnell, of Palo Alto, Cal.; Dr. T. S. Palmer and Prof. F. E. L. Beal, of Washington, D. C., and Dr. Louis B. Bishop, of New Haven, Conn., were elected Fellows. Montague Chamberlain, of Boston, on resignation from the Active list, was elected a Corresponding Fellow. Eighty-three new Associates were elected, and the following fifty-five persons were elected to the new class of Members, namely: Francis H. Allen,¹ H. P. Attwater, Mrs. Florence Merriam Bailey, Vernon Bailey, William L. Baily, Chester Barlow, Prof. George E. Beyer, Frank Bond, Clement S. Brimley, Herbert Brown, Prof. Lawrence Bruner, William A. Bryan, Frank L. Burns, Amos W. Butler, George K. Cherrie, John N. Clark, Frank S. Daggett, Walter Deane, Prof. Barton W. Everman, John Fannin, Walter K. Fisher, James H. Fleming, Louis Agassiz Fuertes, Manly Hardy, Ralph Hoffmann, William A. Jeffries, Rev. Herbert K. Job, Lynds Jones, Prof. David Starr Jordan, Dr. Sylvester D. Judd, George H. Mackay, John W. Mailliard, Joseph Mailliard, Richard C. McGregor, Gerrit Smith Miller, Jr., Mrs. Olive Thorne Miller, John Murdoch, Harry C. Oberholser, Wilfred H. Osgood, Charles J. Pennock, Edward A. Preble, William W. Price, Dr. William L. Ralph, Samuel N. Rhoads, Dr. William C. Rives, Capt. Wirt Robinson, U. S. A., Jewell D. Sornborger, Frank Stephens, Abbott H. Thayer, Ernest Thompson Seton, W. E. Clyde Todd, Bradford Torrey, Charles H. Townsend, Dr. Spencer Trotter, Mrs. Mabel Osgood Wright.

Drs. Merriam, Allen, Dwight and Richmond, and Messrs. Brewster, Ridgway and Stone were elected 'Committee on Classification and Nomenclature of North American Birds.'

¹ The addresses of the new Members-elect may be found by reference to the Membership List published in 'The Auk' for October, 1901.

PUBLIC SESSION. *First Day.* The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. Merriam. An address of welcome was made by Prof. H. C. Bumpus on behalf of the President and Trustees of the American Museum of Natural History, to which a fitting response was made by the Chair.

The scientific proceedings began with a paper by Dr. J. A. Allen, entitled 'The Present Outlook for Stability in Nomenclature.' Remarks followed by the Chair.

Next came 'The Plumages of the American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*),' by Dr. Jonathan Dwight, Jr. Remarks followed by Messrs. Chapman, Oberholser and Batchelder, and Dr. Allen.

The third title was 'On Methods in Museum Bird Exhibits,' by Mr. Frank M. Chapman. In this connection Dr. Merriam called attention to the numerous fine groups of birds forming a part of the ornithological exhibit of the American Museum of Natural History, especially to a late addition representing the colony of breeding sea birds at Bird Rock, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The opening paper of the afternoon session was by James H. Hill, entitled 'The White-winged Crossbill in Captivity.' Remarks followed by Mr. Chapman.

The second title was 'Some Impressions of Texas Birds,' by Louis Agassiz Fuertes and H. C. Oberholser. Remarks followed by Mr. Brewster and Mr. Oberholser.

'Ornithological Notes from Northern New Hampshire,' by Judge John N. Clark, was the title of the third paper. Remarks followed by Messrs. Brewster and Stone.

The concluding paper of the day was 'Routes of Bird Migration across the Gulf of Mexico,' by Prof. W. W. Cooke. In the absence of the author, it was read by Dr. T. S. Palmer. Remarks followed by the Chair, Drs. Palmer and Mearns, and Messrs. Chapman and Nelson.

Second Day. — The meeting was called to order by the President. The first paper, by Dr. J. A. Allen, was entitled 'The American and European Herring Gulls.' Remarks followed by Dr. Dwight and Mr. Oberholser.

The second paper was entitled 'Auduboniana,' by Ruthven Deane, accompanied by an exhibition of books, manuscripts, etc., formerly belonging to Audubon.

The third paper was 'The Moults and Plumages of the North American Ducks (*Anatidæ*),' by Dr. Jonathan Dwight, Jr. Remarks followed by Mr. Stone and the author.

The concluding paper of the morning, 'Remarks on Seven Birds from the Southern United States,' was by Dr. E. A. Mearns.

The afternoon session, held in the large Lecture Hall of the Museum, was devoted to the following papers, all being illustrated by lantern slides, viz.: 'A Naturalist in Yucatan,' by E. W. Nelson; 'Photography in North Dakota Bird Colonies,' by the Rev. H. K. Job; and 'A Reconnaissance in Manitoba and the Northwest,' by Frank M. Chapman.

Third Day.—The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. Merriam. The first and second papers of the morning, 'Are Hummingbirds Cypseloid or Caprimulgoid?' by Hubert Lyman Clark, and a 'List of Birds of Wequetonsing, Mich.,' by Otto Widmann, were read by title. The third paper, 'Notes on the Ornithological Observations of Peter Kalm,' by Dr. Spencer Trotter, was read, in the absence of the author, by Dr. Allen.

Resolutions were adopted thanking the Trustees of the American Museum of Natural History for a place of meeting and for other courtesies tendered to the Union; to the Linnæan Society of New York for generous hospitalities extended to the Union during its Nineteenth Congress; and to the Zoölogical Society of New York for its kind invitation to visit the Society's Zoölogical Gardens.

The afternoon session, held in the large Lecture Hall of the Museum, was a joint meeting of the Union and the Audubon Societies of the United States.

Mr. Ruthven Deane called attention to certain paintings by Audubon which were on exhibition in the Hall.

Mr. Witmer Stone, Chairman of the Committee on Protection of North American Birds, read the report of his Committee for the previous year. Mr. William Dutcher followed, giving 'Results of Special Protection to Gulls and Terns obtained through the Thayer Fund,' and Dr. T. S. Palmer gave an address on 'National Bird Protection—Its Opportunities and Limitations.'

The concluding papers were illustrated by lantern slides, viz.: 'Gulls of the Maine Coast, and Miscellaneous Notes,' by Wil-

liam Dutcher and Wm. L. Baily; 'Some Results of Bird Protection,' by Frank M. Chapman.

The Congress then adjourned, to meet in Washington, D. C., November 17, 1902.

JNO. H. SAGE,
Secretary.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THREE NEW BIRDS OF THE FAMILIES MNIOTILTIDÆ AND CORVIDÆ.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY.

(By permission of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.)

Compsothlypis pitiayumi speciosa.—CHIRIQUI PARULA WARBLER.

Similar to *C. p. pitiayumi* and other South American subspecies, but darker and bluer above, and middle wing-coverts without white tips; similar in last character to *C. p. inornata*, of Guatemala, but much more richly colored.

Nicaragua to Chiriqui.

Type, no. 177411, coll. U. S. Nat. Mus., Boquete, Chiriqui, March 7, 1901; W. W. Brown, Jr., collector; received from Outram Bangs.

Dendroica vigorsii abacoensis.—ABACO PINE WARBLER.

Similar to *D. v. vigorsii* but decidedly larger and with relatively shorter wing; differing from *D. vigorsii achrustera* (Bangs), of New Providence Island, in being decidedly larger and in brighter yellow of under parts.

Adult male: Wing, 70 mm.; tail, 57; exposed culmen, 13.5; depth of bill at nostrils, 5; tarsus, 20; middle toe, 13.5.

Island of Abaco, Bahamas.

Type, no. 108479, coll. U. S. Nat. Mus., Abaco Island, Bahamas, April 1886: Willard Nye.